

Zimbabwe - Harare

Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS)

FACT SHEET



The Zimbabwe – Harare GYTS includes data on prevalence of cigarette and other tobacco use as well as information on five determinants of tobacco use: access/availability and price, environmental tobacco smoke exposure (ETS), cessation, media and advertising, and school curriculum. These determinants are components Zimbabwe could include in a comprehensive tobacco control program.

The Zimbabwe – Harare GYTS was a school-based survey of students in forms 1-3, conducted in 1999. A two-stage

cluster sample design was used to produce representative data for all of Harare. At the first stage, schools were selected with probability proportional to enrollment size. At the second stage, classes were randomly selected and all students in selected classes were eligible to participate. The school response rate was 100%, the student response rate was 83.0%, and the overall response rate was 83.0%. A total of 896 students participated in the Zimbabwe – Harare GYTS.

Prevalence

25.8% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (Male = 30.1%, Female = 21.5%)
 19.5% currently use any tobacco product (Male = 21.5%, Female = 17.2%)
 11.2% currently smoke cigarettes (Male = 11.4%, Female = 10.1%)
 11.1% currently use other tobacco products (Male = 12.4%, Female = 10.1%)
 29.8% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year

Knowledge and Attitudes

44.2% think boys and 23.1% think girls who smoke have more friends
 13.3% think boys and 8.8% think girls who smoke look more attractive

Access and Availability - Current Smokers

21.2% usually smoke at home
 44.7% buy cigarettes in a store
 84.9% who bought cigarettes in a store were NOT refused purchase because of their age

Environmental Tobacco Smoke

37.7% live in homes where others smoke
 61.9% are around others who smoke in places outside their home
 45.1% think smoking should be banned from public places
 42.5% definitely think smoke from others is harmful to them
 31.0% have one or more parents who smoke
 8.5% have most or all friends who smoke

Cessation - Current Smokers

66.2% want to stop smoking
 49.1% tried to stop smoking during the past year
 71.5% have ever received help to stop smoking

Media and Advertising

80.6% saw anti-smoking media messages, in the past 30 days
 75.4% saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards, in the past 30 days
 73.4% saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines, in the past 30 days
 11.1% have an object with a cigarette brand logo
 8.4% were offered free cigarettes by a tobacco company representative

School

37.2% had been taught in class, during the past year, about the dangers of smoking
 28.0% had discussed in class, during the past year, reasons why people their age smoke
 36.3% had been taught in class, during the past year, the effects of tobacco use

Highlights

- 20% of students currently use any form of tobacco; 11% currently smoke cigarettes; 11% currently use some other form of tobacco.
- ETS exposure is very high – almost 4 in 10 students live in homes where others smoke; 6 in 10 are exposed to smoke in public places; 3 in 10 have parents who smoke.
- Over 4 in 10 students think smoking should be banned in public places.
- 4 in 10 students think smoke from others is harmful to them.
- Almost 7 in 10 smokers want to stop.
- 8 in 10 students saw anti-smoking media messages in the past 30 days; over 7 in 10 students saw pro-cigarette ads in the past 30 days.